



**WCFC Meeting
May 9, 2012
Kittitas Valley Event Center
Ellensburg, Washington**

Members Attending: Micki McNaughton, Sarah Foster, Joe Scorcio, Brian Cramer, Sheila Gray, David Nelson, Terry Flatley, Jim Freed, Lisa Ciecko

Absent: Kathy Wolf, Barbara Hollenbeck, Jim Flott, Sandy Salisbury

Guests: Linden Lampman Mead

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 by Chair Joe Scorcio. Council members introduced themselves to our new member, Lisa Ciecko. She introduced herself to the board. She will be Ara Erickson's replacement on the Council. Ara departed Forterra and is now working for Weyerhaeuser as the sustainability manager. The hope is to appoint Ara in an at-large position.

Agenda was reviewed and approved. Minutes were reviewed. Jim Freed moved to approve, Micki McNaughton seconded. Motion carried.

Council business: Sarah discussed vacancies and terms. Many terms are expiring in December. Please let Sarah know if you are interested in renewal as soon as possible. If you know potential new members, forward those along to Sarah. There are a few potential members that have contacted Sarah, and she hopes to make a few appointments prior to the August meeting. Joe provided a recent American Forests article regarding the Farm Bill which include UCF program issues and asked for the Legislative Committee's review.

UCF Program Update: Sarah and Linden thanked the Council for their participation with Arbor Day events. Linden asked for feedback on the scheduling and communication requested any additional feedback to be sent directly to her. Linden is looking at how we are going to proceed as we add more and more Tree City USA communities. They discussed regional events, highlighting the success of the event in Spokane. Oregon has started only attending the "big years" events (5, 10, 15, 20, etc) instead of each year. Council members shared their 2012 Arbor Day experiences. Linden wants to highlight those experiences in the Tree Link and will do a follow-up with the Council members and communities. Staff will contact Council members if communities have other events (parks day, tree plantings, etc.) throughout the year and request DNR/Council representation.

Former State Forester Vicki Christiansen was promoted to the Associate Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry with the USDA Forest Service. Joe suggested the Council send a letter of congratulations to Vicki. Dave moved, Terry seconded. Motion carried. Joe and Sarah will draft and send.

1 Linden gave an update on the two-part inventory project UCF is preparing a Request for
2 Quotations and Qualifications, seeking to enter into contract with one or more private
3 consultant(s) to complete data collection in 4-7 smaller communities (population <10,000). Tree
4 inventory projects will include field data collection of public trees, provide a summary report of
5 conditions, and include resource management recommendations. Sarah expects to begin project
6 implementation by mid-summer in four counties; Chelan, Yakima, Pierce and King.

7
8 Linden and Nicki Eisfeldt, UCF GIS specialist, will inventory Department of Enterprise Services
9 trees this summer, starting with the West Capitol Campus. The intent of this pilot project is to
10 become familiar with TreeWorks software in the field and develop a template for community
11 resource reports and management recommendations.

12
13 Sarah gave an update on the Veterans project (Puget Sound Corps) with the Department of
14 Ecology. They have been working for 5 months and completed projects in Auburn and Tacoma.
15 Sarah talked about the jobs bill that passed this past Legislative Session; it includes \$1.5 million
16 for urban forest restoration projects. The bulk of the projects be in the Puget Sound region, but
17 others will happen across the State. The work will include significant invasive removal and tree
18 planting projects. UCF program will be adding a staff person to coordinate the project.

19
20 Committee discussion: Motion to use August 8th meeting as time to review strategic plan and
21 focus on committee work. Terry moved, Jim Freed seconded. Joe will host in University Place
22 and will send a reminder message to the Council to help address the attendance challenge, and
23 will strongly encourage members to attend. Motion carried.

24
25 ISA International Conference will be held in Portland in August. It's the first time the PNW has
26 held the conference since 2002 in Seattle. Micki is the volunteer coordinator and encouraged
27 members to volunteer and be a presence. Program may be able to pay registration for two
28 WCFC members to attend. Micki is the contact for volunteer opportunities and other
29 information.

30
31 There is an opportunity to plant a tree commemorating the 2012 London Olympics. The City of
32 Olympia and Department of Enterprise Services have planted trees for the last few Olympics.
33 Discussion ensued. No motion was made. Master Gardener Foundation may be a potential
34 partner. Jim Freed will follow up.

35
36 Tree Campus USA is a great program to recognize colleges and universities for tree
37 management. Staff is having a hard time finding time to do outreach. Sarah and Linden would
38 like to see the Council carry this initiative forward and work with colleges and universities in
39 their respective areas. The project was referred to the Outreach Committee to prepare a draft
40 proposal to present at the August meeting/work session. Possibility of creating an internship to
41 implement outreach was discussed. Dave will work with Big Bend Community College as a
42 possible candidate campus.

43
44 Council Round Table: not held.

45
46 Tree Planting: A tree was planted at the Ellensburg Library to commemorate their 26th Tree City
47 USA Award.

48
49 The meeting adjourned at 130 pm.